IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

VAN DEN BRINK et al

Atty. Ref.: 4560-4; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. (To Be Assigned)

TC/A.U.

US Natl Phase of PCT/DK03/00398

Int'l Filing Date: 16 June 2003

Examiner:

For: IMPROVED METHOD OF PRODUCING AN ASPARTIC PROTEASE IN A

RECOMBINANT HOST ORGANISM

December 17, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fees for the above-identified application and to place such application in better condition for examination, please preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows: